

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY CAIRO

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 057407

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: TPHY, OSCI, EG

SUBJECT: FY75 SFCP SCIENCE PROGRAM

REF: A. CAIRO 1760 B. STATE A-4755(6/11/74)

1. SUMMARY. SOME SHORTFALL IN FY75 SFCP SCIENCE PROGRAM
LIKELY WILL OCCUR WHEN COMPARED TO THE PROJECTION SUBMITTED
IN JUNE 1974(REF B). PRINCIPAL FACTORS WHICH HAVE
INTERVENED HAVE BEEN CONGRESSIONAL APPROPRIATION ACTIONS
(EPA) AND BIRTH OF JOINT WORKING GROUPS UNDER JOINT
COMMISSION(HEW/PHS, NBS). SOME OF THE PROPOSALS NOT NOW
TO BE IMPLEMENTED IN FY75 WILL LIKELY BE PRESENTED FOR
IMPLEMENTATION IN FY76, TOGETHER WITH OTHERS. END
SUMMARY.

2. DEPARTMENT HAS REVIEWED WITH PARTICIPATING SCIENCE
AGENCIES STATUS OF PLANS FOR REMAINDER OF FY75, PARTICULARLY
IN LIGHT OF PROJECTION FOR FY75 PRESENTED TO EMBASSY IN
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JUNE 1974(REF B). FOLLOWING IS BRIEF RUNDOWN BY AGENCY

(PROJECT NUMBERS REFER TO ITEM NUMBERS TABLE 1, REF B
ATTACHMENT):

USDA-EXPECTS TO UTILIZE FULL FY75 FUNDS PROJECTED.
HOWEVER DUE TO RISING COSTS PROBABLY CAN ONLY FUND 15 OF 18
PROJECTS. IT HAS FOUR OTHER FULLY DEVELOPED PROJECTS
WHICH IT EXPECTS TO PRESENT FOR SUBSTITUTION.
EPA-FAILED TO RECEIVE FY75 SFCP APPROPRIATION THUS WILL
BE UNABLE TO FUND PROJECTS PROJECTED. CARRY OVER FUNDS
HAVE HAD TO BE UTILIZED FOR ON-GOING COMMITMENTS.
HOWEVER IT HOPEFUL FOR FUNDS IN FY76 TO IMPLEMENT
THESE PROJECTS.

HEW/PHS-WILL BE IMPLEMENTING 6 OF PROJECTED 16 PROJECTS
(NOS. 5,6,7,14,15,16).OTHERS HAVE BEEN SET ASIDE FOR THE
PRESENT WHILE PLANNING ACTIVITIES AND REALIGNMENT OF
PRIORITIES AGREED TO UNDER THE MEDICAL COOPERATION JWG
ARE CARRIED OUT.

HEW/SRS/RSA-FOUR OF PROJECTED PROJECTS ARE UNDERWAY AND
FOUR MORE IN ACTIVE NEGOTIATION. THUS EXPECT TOTAL OF
AT LEAST 8 OF THE 12 TO BE IMPLEMENTED.

HEW/SSA-ITS ONE PROJECT EXPECTED TO BE IMPLEMENTED.

NBS-ANTICIPATES FULL PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION. HOWEVER
NOS. 4,5, AND 6 WILL BE REALIGNED IN KEEPING WITH JWG-TRD
INTERESTS.

NSF-EMBASSY IS AWARE OF NSF PROGRAM REVISIONS(STATE A-700,
CAIRO 2047).

DOD/ONR-EXPECTS TO UTILIZE FULL PROGRAM FUNDS FOR NOS.
1-5 PLUS POSSIBLE ADDITIONAL PROJECT OR TWO TO BE
PRESENTED. IMPLEMENTATION NO. 6 IS DELAYED AND NO. 7
HAS BEEN REJECTED ON BASIS OF FURTHER ONR REVIEW.

SMITHSONIAN-NOS. 3,4,6,9,12(AND 15 IN PART) BEING
IMPLEMENTED. NOS. 1 AND 11 APPROVED BY SMI AND AWAITING
IMPLEMENTATION BY U.S. INVESTIGATORS. PROPOSALS NOS.
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5,7, AND 8 HAVE BEEN DECLINED AS PRESENTLY WRITTEN BUT
INVITED TO RESUBMIT. ACTION ON NOS. 2,13,14 DEFERRED
FOR VARIOUS REASONS FOR PRESENT.

3. AGENCIES HAVE BEEN APPRISED OF NEED TO MOVE FY75
PROGRAM FORWARD AS RAPIDLY AS POSSIBLE, PAYYICULQUFRE
FOR SUBSTITUTIONS AND/OR ADDITIONS WHICH WILL REQUIRE
TIME TO PASS MOFA SCRUTINY. AS USUAL, MUCH OF OFFICIAL

PROCESSING OF PROJECT AGREEMENTS, EVEN THOUGH THEY MAY BE FULLY DEVELOPED AND CLEARED WELL IN ADVANCE, WILL OCCUR IN FINAL QUARTER SINCE AGENCIES OFTEN DO NOT RECEIVE THEIR APPROPRIATIONS UNTIL WELL INTO THE FISCAL YEAR.

4. COMMENT. WHEN FINAL FY75 FUNDING CALCULATION IS POSSIBLE, WE MAY FIND WE END UP SOMEWHAT SHY OF TARGET IN MONEY TERMS. CONGRESS IS SCRUTINIZING AND TIGHTENING BUDGETS AND DOES NOT ALWAYS CONSIDER SFC THAT MUCH DIFFERENT FROM DOLLARS. THE ADVENT OF JWGS IS HAVING AN INFLUENCE IN FOCUSING(AND CHANGING) PLANS OF SOME AGENCIES. FINALLY WE UNDOUBTEDLY ARE EXPERIENCING SOME LAG BETWEEN OPERATING UNDER A LOW-PROFILE PROGRAM AND ONE PERMITTING MEASURED EXPANSION I.E., TIME TO CREATE A BACKLOG OF WORTHY PROPOSALS WHICH HOLD OUT GOOD PROSPECTS FOR FUNDING AND TO DEVELOP EXPANDED CONTACTS AND INTERESTS. AS EMBASSY IS AWARE THE FY75 PROJECTION WAS PRESENTED WITH QUALIFICATIONS AND INCLUDED PROJECTS AND AREAS IN VARYING STAGES OF DEVELOPMENT RANGING FROM THE EARLY EXPLORATORY PHASE TO THOSE FULLY DEVELOPED. IN TOTO OR IN PART IT WAS, AND IS, NOT INTENDED TO BE A COMMITMENT TO THE GOE. NEVERTHELESS IT REPRESENTS AS WILL THE FY76 PROGRAM PROJECTION, A POSITIVE DESIRE AND EFFORT ON THE PART OF AGENCIES TO BE RESPONSIVE TO AND SUPPORTIVE OF THE NEWER POLITICAL RELATIONSHIP WHILE NECESSARILY BEING REQUIRED TO JUSTIFY IT ACCORDING TO AGENCIES' MANDATES IN A DIFFICULT ECONOMIC TIME. WE WOULD NOT AGREE THERE IS BASIS TO CONSIDER "LACK OF PREPAREDNESS" OR "LACK OF ATTENTION" AS FACTORS. END COMMENT.

5. WE WILL BE RESPONDING TO RELATED ISSUES RAISED IN
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CAIRO'S 2023 AND 2173 BY SEPTELS. INGERSOLL

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